

FILAGO ARVENSIS IN NORTH AMERICA.—Specimens of *Filago arvensis* L. collected on July 31, 1942, by Mary Johnstone at Kitchener, British Columbia, close to the southeastern boundary of the Province, apparently provide the first record of this species for the continent. The collection-note states "growing on roadsides and appears to be spreading all over the district".

In response to a request for further material Mr. W. B. Johnstone of Cranbrook collected an excellent series of specimens at the same station in 1943. In August of the same year Mr. J. W. Eastham found it "in a barnyard" at Erickson, some ten miles south of Kitchener. This would indicate that it is established over a considerable terrain and may well spread over a much larger area or until it reaches the limits of adaptability.

This plant has a superficial resemblance to species of *Gnaphalium*. It is by no means inconspicuous, as it attains a height of from 2 to 4 decimetres. It is not known to have any economic significance. The species is a native of Eurasia where it grows in dry sandy or stony soils. I am indebted to Dr. M. L. Fernald of the Gray Herbarium, Harvard University, for his kindness in verifying the determination.—GEORGE A. HARDY, Provincial Museum, Victoria, B. C.,

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INJURY TO HERBARIUM-SPECIMENS BY EXTREME HEAT.—Ever since the use of corrugated pasteboard in drying specimens has come into vogue there has been a tendency to try very rapid drying by placing the presses of "ventilated" specimens over heat. The belief has been propagated that this method tends to keep the natural colors—when it does not steam and blacken specimens not sufficiently dried before being subjected to heat. The late Dr. M. O. Malte made wonderfully fine specimens on his trips to Labrador and the Hudson Bay area by placing the presses, on shipboard, over the grills from the engine-room. Mr. Long and I similarly used the heat from the engine-room on Newfoundland steamers—thus providing diversion and subjects for inquiry for the other passengers. In our case, however, great care was taken to give the specimens a full twenty-four hour period between driers ("blotters"), then to straighten foliage, etc., and even then to give another day or two between driers to all juicy plants, for fear of steaming them or boiling